



*“Teaming up with industrial, scientific, and technical communities—in addition to our traditional partnerships with other law enforcement entities— has launched successes in new areas.”*

**T**he Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms is a unique Federal agency within the Department of the Treasury.

While it is responsible for the administration of some of the newest Federal laws, the Bureau has a history that extends back to the earliest days of the United States.

In FY 1996, ATF achieved closer coordination between the Bureau's criminal and regulatory missions, enhancing teamwork and enabling the Bureau to operate more efficiently and effectively. On September 30, 1996, 4,070 full-time ATF employees were on duty working within the following organizational structure.

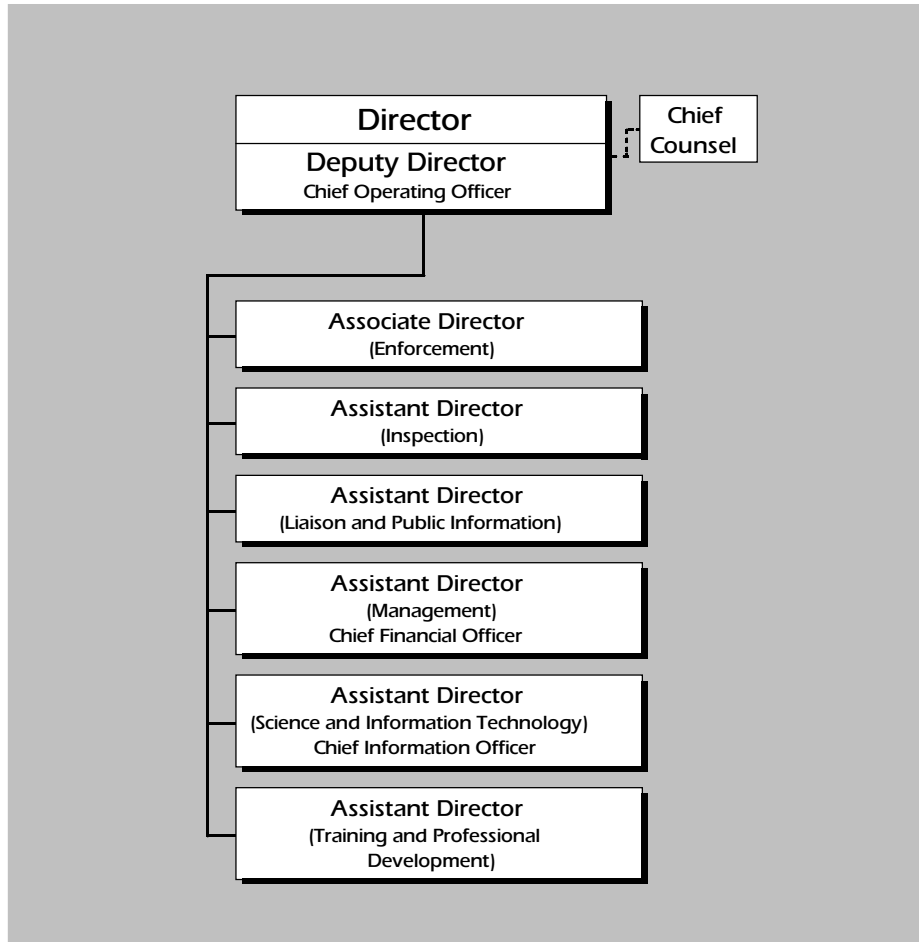
**Bureau Headquarters,**

Washington, D.C., develops major policies and programs in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The ATF executive structure consists of the Director, Deputy Director, Chief Counsel, Associate Director for the Office of Enforcement, and the Assistant Directors for the Offices of Inspection, Liaison and Public Information, Management, Science and Information Technology, and Training and Professional Development.

**Office of the Director** includes the Deputy Director, Ombudsman (resolves the work related concerns of employees and supervisors), Executive Assistant-Legislative Affairs, Executive Assistant-Equal Opportunity, Strategic Planning Office and the Field Process and Structure Focus Group.

**Office of Enforcement** includes both Criminal Enforcement and Regulatory Enforcement functions with offices in every major U.S. city, and in Mexico, Canada, and Colombia. The enforcement field structure consists of:

- Five Regulatory Enforcement District Offices that implement major policies and programs relating to tax statutes and civil actions involving the regulated industries, and provide oversight and coordination to all ATF field regulatory enforcement operations.



## THE EVOLUTION OF ATF

# 1996

- 1996 ANTITERRORISM AND EFFECTIVE DEATH PENALTY ACT** – amended the Federal explosives laws, including enhanced penalties for some explosives offenses, ATF enforcement of plastic explosives marking-detection requirement, and authorization to study the use of taggants in certain explosive materials.
- 1994 VIOLENT CRIME CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT** – amended and strengthened current Federal firearms and explosives laws enforced by ATF.
- 1993 BRADY LAW** – created a mandatory 5-day waiting period for purchasing handguns. Provision allows law enforcement to check the background of each handgun purchaser before delivery of any handguns are made by Federal firearms dealers. (Waiting period provisions took effect in 1994)
- 1992 GANG RESISTANCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING (GREAT)** – established program for gang violence prevention.
- 1988 ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LABELING ACT** – required the Government warning statement to appear on alcohol beverages distributed in the United States.
- 1984 ARMED CAREER CRIMINAL ACT / COMPREHENSIVE CRIME CONTROL ACT** – amended the 1968 Gun Control Act, establishing mandatory sentences for armed drug traffickers and violent career criminals.
- 1982 ANTIARSON ACT** – amended Explosives Control Act to include destruction of property by fire along with destruction by explosives.
- 1978 CONTRABAND CIGARETTE ACT** – ATF helped state enforcement agencies to improve their enforcement and revenue collection capabilities, in response to the millions of dollars being lost to the state by cigarette smuggling from low-tax to high-tax states. Bureau began developing an entirely new Federal effort against an emerging crime problem: arson.
- 1972** Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division was separated from the IRS and given full Bureau status in the Treasury Department as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.
- 1970 TITLE XI OF THE ORGANIZED CRIME CONTROL ACT OF 1970** – contained provisions for industry regulations and established certain bombings and arsons as Federal crimes; and the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division name changed to the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division under the IRS.
- 1968 GUN CONTROL ACT** – created stricter licensing and regulation of the firearms industry, established new categories of offenses involving firearms, and the first direct Federal jurisdiction aimed at criminal use of explosives. Responsibilities delegated to the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division.
- 1954 INTERNAL REVENUE CODE** – Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division gained jurisdiction over the regulation and tax collection on the alcohol beverages, tobacco products and firearms industries.
- 1952** As a result of tobacco tax duties being delegated to the Alcohol Tax Unit in 1951, the unit title was changed to the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).
- 1938 FEDERAL FIREARMS ACT** – established regulations of the firearms industry and made it a crime for felons and fugitives to receive firearms in interstate commerce.
- 1935 FEDERAL ALCOHOL ADMINISTRATION ACT** – created licensing and permit requirements and established regulations designed to ensure an open and fair marketplace to the legal businessman and to the consumer.
- 1934 NATIONAL FIREARMS ACT** – imposed criminal, regulatory, and tax laws on gangster-type weapons such as machine guns; and the Bureau of Prohibition turned over its responsibilities to a newly created Alcohol Tax Unit within the Bureau of Internal Revenue.
- 1933 21st AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION** – Prohibition Era ended.
- 1927** Prohibition Unit became the separate Bureau of Prohibition, under the Department of Justice.
- 1919 18th AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION RATIFIED** – ushered in the Prohibition Era, when it was illegal to manufacture, sell, or transport intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes. Prohibition Unit established under the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.
- 1794 WHISKEY REBELLION** – violent resistance to the established authority of the Federal Government to levy the excise tax on distilled spirits.
- 1791** Congress imposed the first Federal tax on distilled spirits.

# 1791

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- Twenty-two Criminal Enforcement Field Division Offices that implement major policies and programs, coordinate regulatory and criminal enforcement investigations; and assist other Federal, state, and local law enforcement officials with alcohol, tobacco, firearms, explosives, and arson investigations.

**National Tracing Center**, Falling Waters, West Virginia, the only facility of its kind in the United States, provides 24-hour tracing assistance to Federal, state, local, and foreign law enforcement agencies investigating violent crimes involving firearms.

**Firearms and Explosives Licensing Center**, Atlanta, processes all Federal license applications and operating permits for firearms and explosives. The Licensing Center is also the repository for all ATF inspection reports on licensees and permittees.

**Tax Processing Center**, Cincinnati, collects, records, and accounts for all returns and taxes from the alcohol, tobacco, and firearms industries and coordinates national enforcement collection activities for all taxes collected by ATF.

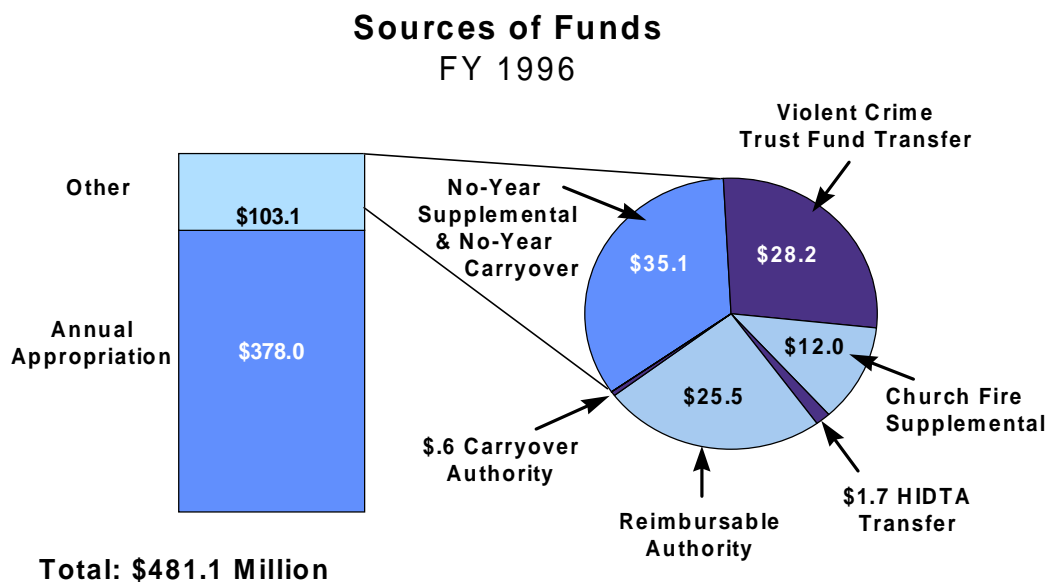
**Three National Laboratories** are located in Maryland, Georgia, and California. ATF laboratory personnel test alcohol and tobacco products, and support investigations by conducting forensic examinations on firearms and explosive materials.

**ATF National Academy**, located at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Georgia, oversees much of the basic and advanced training for the Bureau's special agents, inspectors, and auditors. State and local law enforcement officials also attend certain ATF-sponsored courses.

## FUNDING

### SOURCES OF FUNDS

The total budget authority available for use by ATF in FY 1996 was \$481.1 million. Of that amount, the Congress appropriated \$378.0 million for the Bureau's operations, and an additional \$103.1 million was made available from other sources. These other sources included the following no-year funds: \$35.1 million in carryover funds, of which \$34.8 million was authorized in FY 1995 for the antiterrorism legislation; \$28.2 million from the Department of Justice's Violent Crime Trust Fund (comprising \$10.7 million from the Gang Resistance Education and Training Program and \$17.5 million for the category of



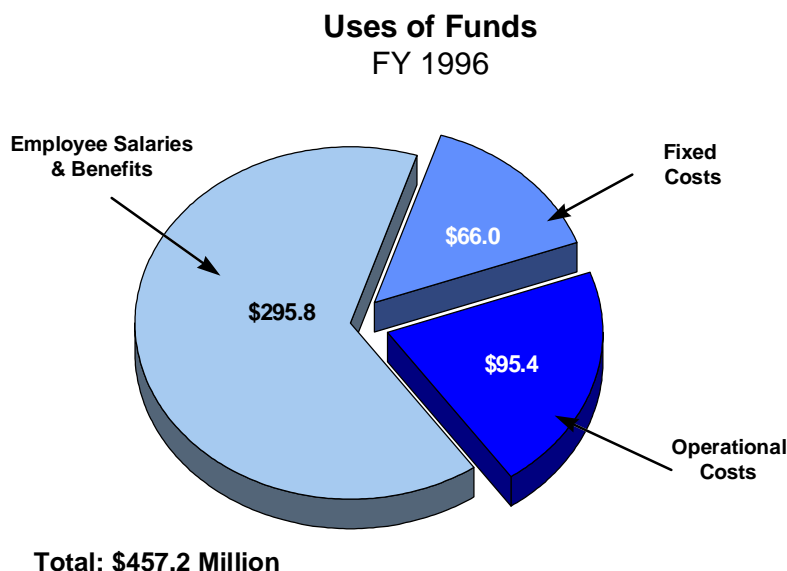
Violent Crime); and \$12.0 million in no-year supplemental funding authorized by Public Law 104-180 (Church Fire).

Other sources of funding also included: appropriation transfers of \$1.7 million from the Office of National Drug Control Policy to support ATF efforts in High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas; \$25.5 million in reimbursable authority from other Government agencies; and additional resources of \$.6 million, which represents 50 percent of the FY 1995 unobligated balance.

## USES OF FUNDS

ATF incurred obligations of \$457.2 million during FY 1996. Of that amount \$295.8 million, or 65 percent, was obligated for employee salaries and benefits. An additional \$66.0 million, or 14 percent, was obligated for fixed costs such as rent and communications. The

remaining \$95.4 million, or 21 percent, was obligated for day-to-day program costs such as travel, transportation, supplies, and equipment. Of the remaining \$23.9 million in budget authority that was not obligated in FY 1996, \$17.9 million represents no-year appropriation carryover funds available for use in FY 1997. The Bureau requested Congressional approval to use \$.6 million in expired FY 1996 annual appropriation authority to fund FY 1997 mission requirements. No-year reimbursable funding of \$1.1 million will be available for use in FY 1997. The remaining \$4.3 million, which represents less than 1 percent of the FY 1996 budget authority, will not be available for use in future years.





# THE BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS

